

Wars, the Korean Conflict, the jungles of Vietnam, and the sands of Desert Storm. But many who served did not come home.

They came from every walk of life. They were our friends, neighbors, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, sisters and brothers. They were ordinary and extraordinary all at once, and all Americans should honor their sacrifices. Freedom is not free. But freedom is worth fighting for. On Veterans Day, and every day, let us salute Lt. Commander Cranford and all our nation's veterans. May God Bless America, now and forever.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 15, 2001*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my District on Tuesday, November 13, 2001, and I would like the RECORD to indicate how I would have voted had I been present.

For rollcall vote No. 436, the conference report for the Agriculture appropriations act for fiscal 2002, I would have voted "aye."

For rollcall vote No. 437, a bill to enhance the authorities of special agents and provide limited authorities to uniformed officers responsible for the protection of domestic Department of State occupied facilities, I would have voted "aye."

#### IN MEMORY OF MAMON POWERS, SR.

#### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 15, 2001*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow and a heavy heart that I offer my heartfelt condolences to the family of a pioneer in the communities of Northwest Indiana. Mr. Mamon Powers, Sr., a construction worker and owner of Powers and Sons Construction Company, died on Tuesday, November 13, 2001, following a long struggle with illness, and will be laid to rest on Saturday, November 17, 2001. Mr. Powers was 80 years old.

Mamon Powers, Sr. was born of humble means in the small town of Churchill, Mississippi. The son of a preacher and homebuilder, Mamon learned the virtues of hard work and strong faith at an early age. Although African-Americans were only allowed to attend school through eighth grade in Churchill at that time, Mamon refused to be encumbered by the bonds with which society attempted to restrict the rights of African-American citizens. He continued his education by attending Campbell College, now known as Jackson State University, and by serving his country in the United States military.

To the benefit of Northwest Indiana, Mamon Powers, Sr. came to the city of Gary after serving with the military. He went to work in the steel mill, but quickly learned that he would not be successful because racial barriers prohibited many African-Americans from joining the union. However, Mamon's love for the community and his determination to suc-

ceed led him to work for Means Developers. With the addition of Mamon's knowledge of construction and his desire to make the city of Gary a better place, Means Construction developed one of the city's finest neighborhoods, Means Manor.

Mamon Powers, Sr. began his own construction company in the early 1950's and eventually became one of the first African-American members of a union in the city of Gary. Over the years, he developed his business into the most successful African-American construction company in the state, and one of the 100 largest in the country. Powers and Sons Construction Company was also recognized nationally by the Small Business Administration in 1997 for its minority business development initiatives. He was responsible for the construction of hundreds of private homes in Northwest Indiana, as well as the construction of many commercial buildings. His professional career made an impact on the community that cannot be measured simply by the number of buildings he created. His love for his work was revealed in his creations, and it inspired the citizens of Gary to take pride in their community.

While Mamon was dedicated to his work, his love for his family and his community remained his top priority. He was committed to his late wife, Leolean, and their six children, Mamon, Jr., Mark, Demetrius, Claude, Florida, and Marquita. He served on the Methodist Hospital Board of Directors and as a member of the Lake County Community Development Committee. In 1989, he was inducted into the Steel City Hall of Fame for his outstanding contributions to Northwest Indiana. Earlier this year, the Frontiers Service Club nominated Mamon for the prestigious Gary Drum Major Award for extraordinary set-vice in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in offering our condolences to the family of Mr. Mamon Powers, Sr. Mamon was a true inspiration to everyone who knew him, and his work in Northwest Indiana will survive as a tribute to his memory. He impacted the lives of many in our community, our state, and our country, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to represent Mamon Powers, Sr. in Congress.

#### INTRODUCTION OF HOMESTAKE MINE CONVEYANCE ACT OF 2001

#### HON. JOHN R. THUNE

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 15, 2001*

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill very important to the world of science, our nation, and my state of South Dakota.

Thirty years ago, the Homestake Mine was host to pioneering research about neutrinos; particles with virtually no weight and possessing no electrical charge that are everywhere around us. Scientists believe these mysterious particles hold secrets that can provide us with important insights into the fundamental nature of the universe.

This legislation, which I will introduce today, envisions an underground neutrino telescope that extends pioneering research begun three decades ago.

While the potential scientific benefits of studying neutrinos is clear, this agreement is also vital to the economies of South Dakota, the Black Hills and the city of Lead. If Homestake were to close, its absence would have a tremendous economic and cultural impact on our state. The Mine has been an integral part of the Hills culture since it opened over 125 years ago. The miners and their families have contributed so much to the area.

However, with the cost of mining gold increasing, Homestake has decided to terminate its operations in Lead. The introduction of a national physics laboratory is a fitting substitute. The lab will employ a number of the current Homestake employees to maintain the integrity of the mine and to make improvements to the structure for the siting of the lab there. Additionally, the lab will employ many scientists and support staff bringing new diversity to the South Dakota economy.

The legislation I will introduce today is a companion bill to S. 1389, introduced by Senator TOM DASCHLE and is the result of months of negotiations between the Homestake Gold Mine, the State of South Dakota, the South Dakota congressional delegation and others. Recently, those negotiations were concluded, and late last week this bill was completed.

The purpose of the bill is to set the terms of land conveyance from Homestake to the State of South Dakota for the establishment of a National Underground Science Laboratory. The Homestake Mining Company would turn over portions of their property, including a nearly 8,000 foot mine shaft and equipment that together likely will be worth hundreds of millions of dollars saving taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars in construction and developmental expenses.

In addition to the land conveyance, the bill also addresses current and future environmental remediation and reclamation concerns. The bill accomplishes this through three main mechanisms. First, it requires an independent evaluation of current and future environmental risks on the site. This evaluation would be conducted under the auspices of the Environmental Protection Agency and would be subject to public review and comment. Second, it establishes an environmental trust fund. Contributions to this trust fund would be calculated as a part of the cost of constructing and operating the lab and the experiments that would take place there. Third, it requires insurance coverage by the State of South Dakota, which would be the managing entity, and any group conducting experiments in the mine. These provisions will provide the needed protection of the environment and the taxpayers that I believe is necessary for this agreement.

This legislation is one piece of the puzzle that will make this lab a reality. I look forward to working with the House leadership, the Committees of jurisdiction, my colleagues in the House and Senate and the Administration to see this bill enacted into law.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AND CIVIL LIBERTIES ISSUES

#### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 15, 2001*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am growing increasingly concerned about a series of recent actions taken by the Bush Administration